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## No Place for the CIA

The leftwing magazine, "Ramparts," whose editors say they try to put "a bomb in every issue," has revealed that the Central Intelligence Agency has been subsidizing the National Student Association. The CIA promptly confessed, and President Johnson immediately issued a cease and desist order.

The CIA's reasons for its subsidy are interesting. Communist governments have heavily infiltrated and subverted radical student groups in this country and abroad. They have spent considerable money trying to turn these organizations into cat-paws for Red revolution.

The CIA found that American student organizations had no funds to attend international student meetings where they might counteract some of these influences. Hence the subsidy.

The trouble with this scheme was that the CIA function was bound to be revealed sometime, and that when it came out the anti-Communist-leaning American student would look just like the Communist-leaning student, i.e., a paid stooge for a government policy.

Moreover, there was some doubt about how well the NSA advanced the interests

of American foreign policy. Rep. Donald Lukens (R-Ohio) stated that NSA leaders had praised Japanese students who rioted against the Eisenhower visit, had condemned U.S. intervention in the Dominican Republic crisis, urged a coalition government with the Viet Cong in South Viet Nam, recommended the admission of Red China to the U.N. and called for the abolition of the House Committee of Un-American Activities. If this is all true, there is cause to wonder what the CIA could have been thinking of.

Clandestine subsidy by government of ostensible civilian organizations is a poor device for democracies, even though totalitarian nations have been at it for a long time. There may be rare cases where a front is needed for the purpose of carrying on hard-line intelligence or counter-intelligence, but it is strong medicine and must be used sparingly.

If any college kid is going to be paid to go to an international convention let one of the foundations pay him, and when he goes let's hope that he doesn't sound like a delegate from Moscow, or Havana, or Peking.

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